

Attendance of the March 15, 2006 GMTF Meeting
(based on sign-in sheet)

Name	Agency
Afsharian, Gita	Wilbur Smith Associates
Bacharach, Jacki	South Bay Cities COG
Bone, Lou	City of Tustin
Campbell, Hon. Todd	City of Burbank
Catz, Sarah	UC Irvine
Cousar, Felicia	Southern California Logistics Airport
Daniels, Hon. Gene	City of Paramount
DiCamillo, LaDonna	BNSF
Flickinger, Hon. Bonnie	City of Moreno Valley
Garcia, Hon. Lee Ann	City of Grand Terrace
Greenwald, Peter	SCAQMD
Gurule, Hon. Frank	City of Cudahy
Guss, Ron	California Trucking Association
Herrera, Hon. Carol	City of Diamond Bar
Knox, Deadra	SCRRA
Kumar, Vin	Caltrans District 7
Lai, Sue	POLA
Lopez, Rosa	IVAG
Marquez, Jesse	Coalition for a Safe Environment
Park, Noel	San Pedro Homeowners Coalition`
Schoetzow, Eileen	LAWA
Smith, Steve	SANBAG
Valdez, Lupe	Union Pacific Railroad
Wanda, Kathleen	Caltrans District 7
Warren, Elizabeth	LA Chamber of Commerce
SCAG Staff	
Nadler, Jonathan	
Pfeffer, Nancy	
Wong, Philbert	



GOODS MOVEMENT TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2006

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Goods Movement Task Force Vice-Chair Gene Daniels, City of Paramount, called the meeting to order. A list of those in attendance is included in the minutes. Self introductions were made.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no comments.

3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

3.1 Approval Items

3.1.1 Approval of the February 15, 2006 Minutes

Motion to approve the February 15, 2006 Goods Movement Task Force minutes was seconded and accepted with no objections.

4.0 ACTION ITEMS

4.1 Southern California Comments on Doha Development Agenda

Ms. Nancy Pfeffer, SCAG, presented this item. In January 2006, comments were submitted by SCAG to the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative on the U.S.-Thailand Free Trade Agreement in regard to the local impacts of international trade. SCAG has been presented with another opportunity to comment on the local impacts of trade, this time on the scope of the environmental review for the Doha Development Agenda. As a result, staff has revised the comments on the U.S.-Thailand Free Trade Agreement for submittal to Office of the U.S. Trade Representative on the Doha Development Agenda.

Mr. Jesse Marquez requested that SCAG use the truck volume and container forecasts used in the Port of Los Angeles Baseline

Transportation Study completed in April 2004, in reference to charts found on pages 3 and 13 in the document. Staff will research this issue.

ACTION: The GMTF unanimously approved the recommended action to approve comments and forward to the SCAG Transportation and Communications Committee and Regional Council

5.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

5.1 Union Pacific Railroad Current Program and Initiatives

Ms. Lupe Valdez, Union Pacific, presented this item. Union Pacific (UP) is divided into 4 regions, with Southern California being located in the western region. Within California, UP has 3,455 miles of track, 5,859 employees, and an annual payroll of \$348 million.

UP is currently in an expansion and hiring mode, which has resulted in hiring of trainmen and engineers and purchases of new locomotives. In addition, the UP is planning to invest over \$2.7 billion on infrastructure in 2006 across their entire system. This includes double tracking, potential improvements to existing facilities, such as the Intermodal Container Transfer Facility (ICTF), and Alameda Corridor East grade separation projects.

UP is also making investments to lower locomotive emissions and improve fuel efficiency. This includes replacement of older locomotives with newer ones that emit fewer emissions and introduction of new types of locomotives, such as the 'Gen-Set', which is projected to exceed EPA locomotive Tier 2 requirements, and hybrid diesel electric and liquefied natural gas switch locomotives.

Ms. Valdez concluded her presentation with two slides that compare the projected decreases in NOx and PM 2.5 emissions from trucks and rail in the South Coast Air Basin.

5.2 Pilot Project Recommendations for 2% Strategy and Logistics Sector

Dr. John Husing presented this item. Dr. Husing provided a report card on where the region stands in terms of its economy and goods

movement. As such, he touched upon issues affecting the region, such as growing container volume at the Ports of LA and Long Beach, trucks adding to traffic congestion, the lack of rail grade separations, the impact of air toxics, Southern California's falling economic status, and lost manufacturing jobs. He also discussed the ability of the logistics industry to replace many of the lost manufacturing jobs.

Dr. Husing then discussed what is left to do, and summarized this into ten bullet points. First, there needs to be agreement on what infrastructure needs to be built, such as dedicated truck lanes, expanded rail capacity, and new intermodal facilities. Second, there needs to be agreement on a strategy for environmental mitigation. Third, additional industry peer review of SCAG's research is needed, which includes work on job creation capability of the logistics industry, the Port and Modal Elasticity Study, and the time and reliability savings SCAG predicts would accrue to the private sector as a result of infrastructure improvements. Fourth, an institutional arrangement is needed to manage a multi-county process. Fifth, federal and state legislation is needed for funding tools to lower costs. Sixth, agreement is needed on the State infrastructure bond program, which would jump start this process. Seventh, federal funding of trade related infrastructure is needed. Eighth, private sector and union leadership is needed to support this agenda. Ninth, consensus is needed amongst health, community, and environmental leaders to support this agenda. Finally, elected officials need to understand and promote such a program.

Mr. Marquez asked that Dr. Husing include in his presentation the shift of manufacturing to China and the accompanying loss of U.S. jobs, the lack of government investment into emerging technologies, and the need for business to pay the costs of goods movement infrastructure improvements. Dr. Husing noted that there needs to be a negotiated agreement between business, the community, and government so that all parties benefit.

Hon. Todd Campbell, City of Burbank, asked what would happen if we were to make massive investments in infrastructure to accommodate goods movement, and the growth in goods movement and the associated jobs and wages do not materialize. Dr. Husing believes that we are in an era of international trade and that the presence of the logistics industry is the result of strategic advantages that Southern California possesses. As a result, goods movement is here to stay and will probably get larger before it gets smaller.

6.0 STAFF REPORT

- The 8th Annual Center for International Trade and Transportation State of the Trade and Transportation Conference will be held tonight (March 15) at Cal State Long Beach. This year's topic is 'Evolving Goods Movement Solutions: Balancing the Economy and the Environment'.
- The Multi-County Goods Movement Action Plan Stakeholder Advisory Group meeting will be held at SANBAG on March 22, 2006 from 11am-1pm.
- A short-run elasticity model (2-10 years out) will be conducted as part of the Port and Modal Elasticity Study Phase II project.
- A quick evaluation of the economic feasibility of Maglev for freight is currently being conducted by SCAG staff and its consultants. A formal consultant study to examine the feasibility of innovative freight technologies is included in the FY 06-07 OWP.

7.0 COMMENT PERIOD

Mr. Al King, former member of the Oregon State Legislature, provided an update on the activities of the West Coast Corridor Coalition. The primary purpose of the coalition is to seek additional funding for goods movement projects. In doing so, the coalition is not only looking to the federal government, but is also looking to China as a possible source of funds since the volume of trade with China is directly related to goods movement infrastructure capacity in the United States.

Ms. Kathleen Wanda, Caltrans District 7, asked that in his report Dr. Husing document his methodologies and data sources used in order to facilitate peer review.

8.0 NEXT MEETING

The next regular GMTF meeting will be:
Wednesday, April 19, 2006
9:00am-11:00am
SCAG Offices, San Bernardino Conference Rooms A&B

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11 am



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ASSOCIATION of GOVERNMENTS